

REPORT: FE-41-97
RAILROAD: Norfolk Southern (NS)
LOCATION: Ridgeway, South Carolina
DATE, TIME: Dec. 9, 1997, 2:20 p.m., EST

PROBABLE CAUSE:

The southbound Trackman crossed into the path of a southbound pickup truck and was struck while attempting a left turn.

EMPLOYEE: **Craft..... MOW**

Activity..... Trackman was en route from a safety meeting to job site in his personal vehicle.

Occupation..... Trackman

Age..... 39 years

Length of Service..... 13 years

Circumstances Prior to the Accident

On the morning of Dec. 9, 1997, the NS Trackman had attended a Track Department safety meeting in Columbia, South Carolina. He was en route to his regular job assignment with Track Maintenance Gang No. 134 in Chester, South Carolina. The employee was traveling in his personal vehicle, a 1995 Mercury Mystique.

The weather was clear and dry, with temperatures ranging from 50° F to 60° F.

The Accident

The Trackman was traveling southbound on U.S. 21. Three miles south of the city limits of Ridgeway, South Carolina, his vehicle collided with a southbound 1983 Ford F100 pickup truck. Both Drivers were transported to Richard Memorial Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina. The victim was pronounced dead at 6:20 p.m., and the Truck Driver was treated for a broken nose and sprained left wrist and released.

Post-Accident Investigation

The investigation of the accident area revealed that the automobile and the pickup truck were traveling southbound on U.S. 21. The Driver of the southbound pickup truck attempted to pass the automobile in a designated passing zone. When the Driver of the automobile attempted to make a left turn onto a private road, he impeded the path of the pickup truck. The automobile was struck on the Driver's side of the vehicle.

The police report stated that the deceased Trackman was at fault for making an improper left turn, while the Truck Driver was making a legal pass.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FORM TP-215 (REV. 4-55)

Cheryl Suss

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Date 12-09-97	Time 1420	County 20	1. Location a. US Primary b. BC Primary	4. Secondary b. County c. Other	ON 21	COLLISION INFORMATION Push Number and Name if any	ANALYST 1. Name 2. Extension 3. Office
Time 1	Flow Flow	Left / Right Turn Direction ④ E S W	1. Location a. US Primary b. BC Primary	4. Secondary b. County c. Other	FROM RELANDO	BASE INTERSECTION Push Number and Name if any	ANALYST 1. Name 2. Extension 3. Office
Distance .60	Direction ④ E S W	Turn Point 1425	1. Location a. US Primary b. BC Primary	4. Secondary b. County c. Other	TO 46	SECOND INTERSECTION Push Number and Name if any	ANALYST 1. Name 2. Extension 3. Office
Turn Point 1425		Turn Point 1435	Turn Point 1440	IN Ridgewood		On 3.00	USE ONLY 1. Name 2. Extension 3. Office
1. F W	2. M B		3. P R		4. L R		
04-05-63	04-05-58		04-05-58		04-05-58		
Fairfield	Fairfield		Fairfield		Fairfield		
SC 0	SC 0		SC 0		SC 0		
1983 PRP	1983 PRP		1983 PRP		1983 PRP		
SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
05-050	05-050		05-050		05-050		
Fairfield	Fairfield		Fairfield		Fairfield		
SC 0	SC 0		SC 0		SC 0		
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SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
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SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
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SC 0	SC 0		SC 0		SC 0		
1983 PRP	1983 PRP		1983 PRP		1983 PRP		
SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
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Fairfield	Fairfield		Fairfield		Fairfield		
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SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
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SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
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1983 PRP	1983 PRP		1983 PRP		1983 PRP		
SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
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1983 PRP	1983 PRP		1983 PRP		1983 PRP		
SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
05-050	05-050		05-050		05-050		
Fairfield	Fairfield		Fairfield		Fairfield		
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1983 PRP	1983 PRP		1983 PRP		1983 PRP		
SC 1987	SC 1987		SC 1987		SC 1987		
05-050	05-050		05-050		05-050		
Fairfield	Fairfield		Fairfield		Fairfield		
SC 0	SC 0						